

MINUTES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AND DELTA AREA COMMITTEE MAY 11, 1999

Welcome and Administrative Remarks

LCDR Pete Gautier, USCG, opened the meeting with an update on recent events in the oil spill response community. He first mentioned the International Oil Spill Conference held in Seattle, WA in early March. There were several presentations conducted by members of the Committee including one on the Incident Command System by LCDR Gautier, another on the Area Contingency Plan by CDR Kristy Plourde, USCG, and finally, one on Wildlife Operations by LCDR Gautier and John Tarpley, OSPR. LCDR Gautier then announced the events surrounding the 10th anniversary of the Valdez oil spill. On March 22, the USCG, DFG OSPR, and Clean Bay co-sponsored an event at the Coast Guard Group on Yerba Buena Island to commemorate the advancements in spill prevention and response since the spill back in 1989. The affair received the attention of 4 radio and 7 television stations from the local area. On March 23, three individuals conducted a small protest at the Richmond Long Wharf. The protest was quickly secured by the USCG and local police and received little media response. Finally, LCDR Gautier announced the recent meetings on risk analysis for oil spills. These three meetings consisting of three days each are held with decision makers of the local response community, such as FOSC, State IC, and spill management team leaders, to determine the impact of different clean-up methods on the environment.

LCDR Gautier discussed the updates for the ACP. The timeline for updating the current plan are:

July 1, 1999:	All ACP changes to USCG.
September 1, 1999:	ACP draft complete.
October 15, 1999:	USCG/OSPR final approval.
November 15, 1999:	ACP sent out for printing.
December 1, 1999:	ACP distributed and made available for purchase.
January 1, 2000:	Revised ACP into effect.

Items to be revised include the Wildlife Operations text, GRP and Sensitive Sites information, Local Resources information, In Situ Burn Alternative Countermeasures information, Hazardous Materials section text, and correction of errata (phone numbers, addresses, points of contact, etc). LCDR Gautier then introduced Tim Holmes, USCG as the contact for correcting all of the errata. Tim informed the Committee that Volume II is complete, and he will provide this information to Carl Jochums, OSPR, to include in the SISRS database. Terry Joslin, Blue Water, brought up the benefits of having one central database of contact phone numbers. The Committee then decided to focus an entire day meeting to the ACP revisions in lieu of a regular Committee meeting in mid-July

Jim Hardwick, OSPR, provided the brief as co-chair in place of Larry Kirsch who was unable to attend. He discussed the recent changes in personnel for OSPR, specifically the new key players, Bob Hight, Gary Gregory, and Ken Mayer.

LCDR Gautier then turned the meeting over to the Subcommittee Chairs for their individual briefs.

Subcommittee Briefings:

- 1. SS/GRP (Sensitive Site/Geographic Response Plan).** Carl Jochums reported that the Subcommittee is still working on the ACP revisions. There are currently 40 sites remaining to enter into the SISRS database. The group was concerned whether the Microsoft Access format would transfer to other computer formats. Terry Joslin led a work group that researched this issue and determined that it will not be a problem and that the Access format should operate smoothly into the future. Carl concluded his brief with the announcement that the Tabletop SISRS Exercise for updating site strategies will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 12-13, in the gym classroom on Coast Guard Island.

2. **Exercises.** Terry Joslin reported that the next meeting for the Subcommittee is on June 10 at Clean Bay. At that meeting, the group will discuss the information from the vessel plans that are on file at OSPR.
3. **Local Resources.** Dave Peck, Clean Bay, stated that Steve Ricks did not have any information to brief for the Subcommittee. LCDR Gautier announced that the USCG is working on the Local Resources update for the ACP.
4. **Volunteers.** Charlotte Robertson announced that the Volunteer Subcommittee is still waiting for the results from the proposal to the Cape Mohecan Grant Fund. Once they receive the funds, they will be able to begin work for volunteers.
5. **Wildlife Operations.** John Tarpley briefed the Committee on the status of the Wildlife Operations update to the ACP. Charlotte Robertson completed professional editing on the current update. The Subcommittee attempted to make the text detailed enough so that someone would be able to understand what to do, but not so much that the document is too complex or technical to understand. Including adding all the required forms, the revision should be completed in approximately two weeks. The section will be completely new and will replace sections 9710 and 3500 in the Operations section of the ACP.

Other AC Activities

LCDR Mark Dix provided a brief on the activities of the North Coast Area Committee. The last meeting was held on April 28, 1999. The Committee began by discussing the VOSS exercise from the end of March. The group then deliberated developing geographic response plans for Crescent City, Mendocino, and Fort Bragg and formed a Subcommittee for GRP's. The next meeting will be held on June 22 and will include a GRP Subcommittee meeting in the morning, an Area Committee meeting in the afternoon, and a Harbor Safety Committee meeting in the evening. LCDR Dix then announced that he is being transferred this summer to the Reserve Training Center in Yorktown, VA. His replacement will be LT Kara Morrison from MSO Puget Sound. LCDR Dix concluded by introducing LT Richard Sanders, USCG, to briefly discuss the VOSS exercise. LT Sanders stated that the exercise entailed utilizing the enhanced skimming system on board the oyster dredge, the *ELUSIVE*, and several MSRC vessels.

LT Fred Meadows provided a brief on the activities of the Central Coast Area Committee. The major focus for this Committee is the upcoming PREPEX on September 14, 1999. The exercise will involve a train derailment and resulting spill of both diesel fuel and some type of hazardous material. It will be held with Union Pacific railroad at Elk Horn Slough near Monterey. The Committee met with representatives from Union Pacific to discuss details of the exercise. In this meeting, three Subcommittees with chairs were designated to handle different aspects of the exercise: GRP/Sensitive Sites – Larry Espinosa, OSPR; Wildlife Operations – Ellen Rhode-Daniels, OSPR; Railroad Specific Issues – UP representatives. The main objectives for the exercise are (1) Test notifications, (2) Establish ICS/Unified Command, (3) Test Key ICS elements (communications; Planning driving Operations, not vice versa), and (4) Develop a GRP for Elk Horn Slough. Key players involved will be USCG, OSPR, NOAA, EPA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Park Service, local Fire Department HAZMAT team, Elk Horn Slough Reserve, Public Health Department, FOSS, ACTI, and Clean Bay. The next meeting will be held on May 21.

M/V NEW CARISSA Incident

Heather Parker-Hall, NOAA, briefed the Committee on the M/V NEW CARISSA incident in Coos Bay, Oregon. Heather arrived on scene halfway through the response to act as the NOAA SSC. Therefore, she was unable to observe the initial response, but she did make some noteworthy observations during the time she was there. The Committee discussed these issues and analyzed the positive and negative aspects of the response.

New Business

The Committee said goodbye to Russell Wiggins of San Mateo County. He is leaving the county for a new job as an Emergency Planner with the San Francisco Airport. Russell thanked the USCG and OSPR for all of the knowledge he has gained and been able to utilize for the county over the years.

Set next meeting date

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, July 13th at the Banners Club, Building 18 on Coast Guard Island.